

LISTING OF CLAIMS

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for loading material into a hauling vehicle, said hauling vehicle including a storage area for holding said material, comprising:

a receiving member for receiving material thereon and transferring said material toward said storage area, said receiving member having a vehicle end positioned toward said vehicle and a loading end positioned away from said vehicle, said loading end having a base member formed in the shape of a tray and said base member having a loading edge opposite said vehicle end and at least two side edges, and [to include] a retaining wall extending upward from the [outer] loading edge of said loading end facing away from said vehicle, said retaining wall positioned opposite said vehicle end and configured to retain material on said loading end, said receiving member being movable between a deployed position extending away from said vehicle and positioned for the placement of material on said loading end and a transfer position in which said receiving member is positioned to transfer material placed on the loading end toward said hauling vehicle;

a connector for rotatably connecting said vehicle end of said receiving member to said hauling vehicle proximate said storage area; and

operation means for moving said receiving member between said deployed position and said transfer position.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~loading end includes a base member, said~~ base member [being] is sized and configured to be aligned at an elevation above

the ground surface lower than the elevation of said storage area of said hauling vehicle when said receiving member is in said deployed position and said base member ~~also being connected to~~ and said vehicle end of said receiving member ~~said vehicle end of said receiving member being~~ are positioned [at] with the vehicle end forming an angle of from about 120 degrees to about 160 degrees [from] with said base member.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~loading end includes a base member,~~ said base member [being] is sized and configured to be aligned at an elevation above the ground surface lower than the elevation of said storage area of said hauling vehicle when said receiving member is in said deployed position, and said base member ~~also being connected to~~ and said vehicle end of said receiving member, ~~said vehicle end of said receiving member being~~ are positioned [at] with the vehicle end forming an angle of from about 145 degrees to about 180 degrees with said base member.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~loading end includes a base member,~~ said base member [being] is sized and configured to be aligned at an elevation above the ground surface lower than the elevation of said storage area of said hauling vehicle when said receiving member is in said deployed position, and said base member ~~also being connected to~~ and said vehicle end of said receiving member, ~~said vehicle end of said receiving member being~~ are positioned [at] with the vehicle end forming an angle of from about 90 degrees to about 145 degrees with said base member.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [2] 1 wherein, said operation means is operable to lift said base member into said transfer position in which the base member is elevated

to cause any material on said base member to slide with the force of gravity into said storage area.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [2] 1 wherein said receiving member includes a guide member located at said vehicle end positioned proximate said storage area and oriented to direct material from said vehicle end into said storage area, when said receiving member is positioned in the transfer position.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [2] 1 wherein said base member includes a frame and canvas material disposed over said frame.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [2] 1 wherein said base member includes a flat metal sheet, ~~formed in the shape of a tray,~~ for receipt of said material thereon.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said receiving member ~~has opposite sides extending above and away from said vehicle end, and wherein said receiving member has~~ side walls attached to said side edges to extend upwardly from said receiving member ~~proximate said opposite sides.~~

10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said operation means includes a reel attached to said hauling vehicle and a cable attached to said receiving member, said reel being configured to be operable to wind and unwind said cable to move said receiving member between said deployed position and said transfer position.

11. (Previously cancelled)

12. (Previously cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said connector includes a hinge attached to said vehicle end of said receiving member, and wherein said vehicle includes a rear

support member, the connector being attached to said [to a] rear support member of said hauling vehicle.

14. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said connector includes a pivot mechanism.

DATED this 2nd day of December, 2006

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